Clearance of tunnel near Humayun Tomb

1508. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Archaeological Survey of India cleared the road at National Highway-24 with Lodhi Road through a tunnel near the Humayun Tomb;

(b) whether traffic movement around heritage sites have been restricted in other countries; and

(c) if so, what was the main reason for giving permission for the tunnel near the heritage building?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The Archaeological Survey of India had issued a conditional No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the proposal of the Link Road connecting NH-24 by-pass to Lodhi Road through a tunnel passing at a distance of 340 metres from the Humayun's Tomb. As the response of the Delhi Administration to the conditionalities has not been received, the NOC has been suspended.

(b) No such data is available with the Archaeological Survey of India.

(c) The NOC for the construction of proposed Link Road was given subject to specific conditions in view of the protected monuments in the vicinity of the proposed tunnel road.

Collection of manuscripts under National Manuscripts Mission

1509. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of manuscirpts that have been collected under the National Manuscripts Mission;

(b) in what manner such manuscripts have been categorized; and

(c) the places where these manuscripts are being stored?